Remarks

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 19, 20 and 30-34 are directed to allowable subject matter. Pursuant to that determination, Applicants have cancelled non-elected claims 27-29 to place this application in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 19, 20 and 30-34 are pending in the application, with 19, 20 and 30 being the independent claims. Claims 27-29 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and that they be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection have been properly accommodated. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal

communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Duse W. Medler

Teresa U. Medler

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 44,933

Date: Just 17, 2003

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600

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